Amendments to the Specification:

Page 4, lines 18-28: Replace paragraph [00021] in its entirety with the following amended paragraph [00021]:

[00021] FIG. 1 shows a system 100 used to implement the present invention. The system 100 includes a remote server 105 with a remote network-enabled intelligent optimization engine 110, and a client machine 115 with an application program 120 running on a processor ~~(not shown)~~ 121 within the client machine 115. The remote network-enabled intelligent optimization engine 110 may be a software object. The client machine 115 uses a network connection 150 to remote server 105 to test performance metrics based on various network configuration settings in order to achieve desired performance improvements. The remote network-enabled intelligent optimization engine 110 uses one or more algorithms to determine the best configuration based on the data accumulated in limited or ongoing performance tests. The application program 120 running on the processor 121 of the client machine 115 includes a network performance monitor 125, performance metrics 130, network configuration settings 135, user preferences 140 and a local intelligent optimization engine 145.

Page 6, lines 17-23: Replace paragraph [00027] in its entirety with the following amended paragraph [00027]:

[00027] The remote network-enabled intelligent optimization engine 110 on the remote server 105 is an optional component of the present invention. The remote network-enabled intelligent optimization engine 110 stores the network configuration settings 135 in storage 111 and aggregate test results from one or more users of one or more connected client machines 115. The local intelligent optimization engine 145 on the client machine 115 can access recommendations from the remote network-enabled intelligent optimization engine 110 on the remote server 105 in order to determine the optimal network configuration for that specific machine and network connection type.

Page 6, line 24 through page 7, line 1: Replace paragraph [00028] in its entirety with the following amended paragraph [00028]:

[00028] The present invention stores performance metrics 130 for particular network configuration settings 135 on the client machine 115. The present invention accesses network configuration settings 135 stored in storage 136 on the client machine 115. In addition, the present invention can optionally store aggregate data received from one or more client machines 115 on the remote server 105. This data contains the network configuration settings 135 and network performance metric test results from the client machine(s) 115. Any other appropriately relevant data pertaining to the client machine 115, remote server 105, and the performance testing may be stored as well. FIG. 2 shows an example of how the specified data is stored in a database.